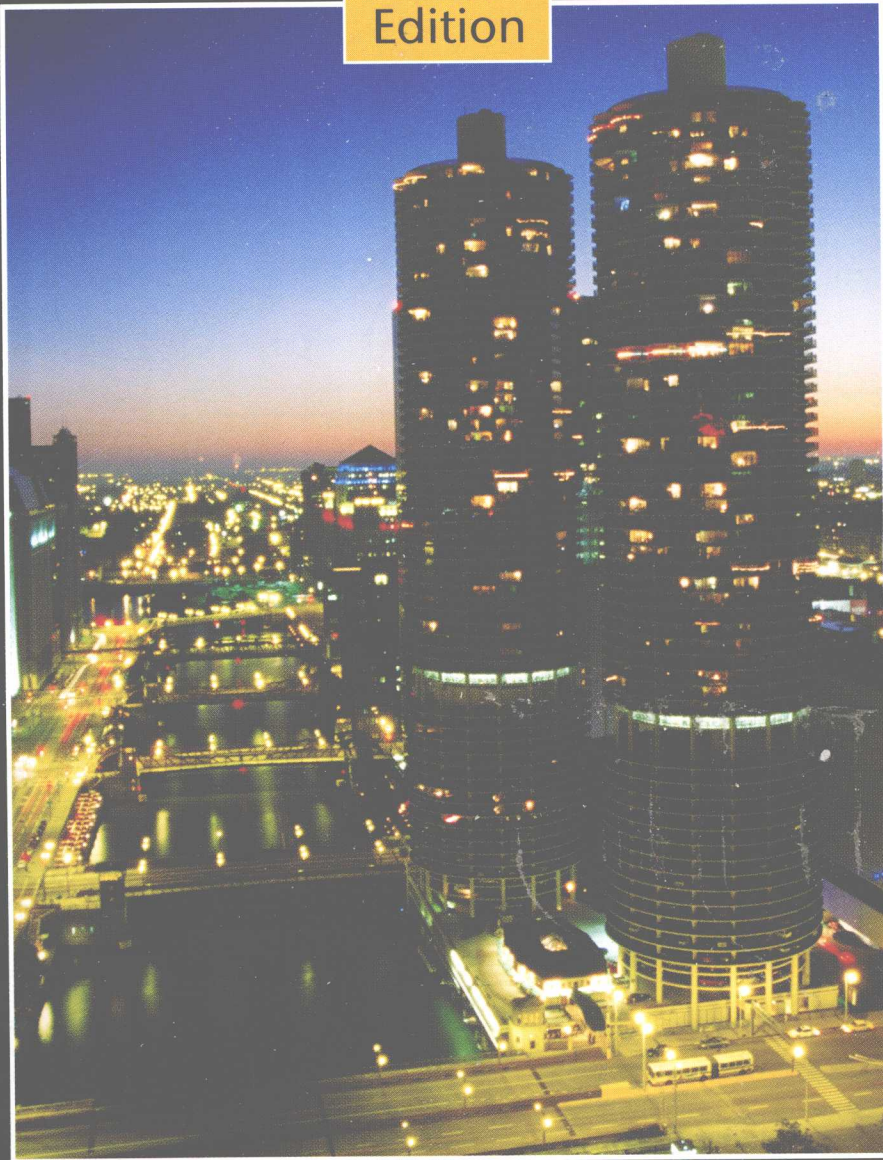


ANNUAL EDITIONS

Urban Society

11th
Edition



A·N·N·U·A·L E·D·I·T·I·O·N·S

Urban Society

Eleventh Edition

EDITORS

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The Cooper Union

Fred Siegel is a professor of history and humanities at The Cooper Union in New York and a senior fellow at the Progressive Policy Institute in Washington. Dr. Siegel has taught at the Sorbonne in France, and has been a fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton. His book on urban liberalism in New York, Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles, *The Future Once Happened Here*, was first published by the *Free Press*, and then issued in a paperback edition, with a new Afterword, by *Encounter Press*.

Jan Rosenberg

Long Island University

Jan Rosenberg is a professor of sociology and urban studies at the Brooklyn campus of Long Island University. She has written about urban empowerment zones and welfare-to-work programs for the *City Journal* and the *Wall Street Journal* as well as *Social Problems Cityscope*.

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Cataloging in Publication Data

Main entry under title: Annual Editions: Urban Society 11/E.

1. Urban Society—Periodicals. I. Siegel, Fred *comp.* II. Rosenberg, Jan, *comp.* III. Title: Urban Society.

ISBN 0-07-281704-6 658'.05 ISSN 0735-2425

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Eleventh Edition

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Printed in the United States of America 1234567890BAHBAH543 Printed on Recycled Paper

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Members of the Advisory Board are instrumental in the final selection of articles for each edition of ANNUAL EDITIONS. Their review of articles for content, level, currentness, and appropriateness provides critical direction to the editor and staff. We think that you will find their careful consideration well reflected in this volume.

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Fred Siegel

The Cooper Union

Jan Rosenberg

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To the Reader

In publishing ANNUAL EDITIONS we recognize the enormous role played by the magazines, newspapers, and journals of the public press in providing current, first-rate educational information in a broad spectrum of interest areas. Many of these articles are appropriate for students, researchers, and professionals seeking accurate, current material to help bridge the gap between principles and theories and the real world. These articles, however, become more useful for study when those of lasting value are carefully collected, organized, indexed, and reproduced in a low-cost format, which provides easy and permanent access when the material is needed. That is the role played by ANNUAL EDITIONS.

In addition to articles that explore pressing urban issues, from sprawl to crime and education, as well as urban economies, revitalization, neighborhoods, and the roles of culture and education, this eleventh edition of *Annual Editions: Urban Society* considers some of the specifically urban issues posed by the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. What impact will these attacks have on the long-standing tendency toward population dispersion? How should we best memorialize our staggering losses? How has the American view of New York changed as a result of both the attacks and New Yorkers' responses to the attacks? These issues are addressed in particular in unit 9, "Urban Futures: Cities After September 11, 2001."

As of mid-year 2002 American cities appear to be clinging to their hard-earned gains of the 1990s, despite the economic downturn that began in the spring of 2001 and that accelerated after September 11. The suicide bombings in New York and Washington created a new sense of urban vulnerability, though it is too early to tell what the long-term economic and geographic implications will be.

Thanks largely to the perspectives and policies of new mayors around the country, cities in the 1990s managed to grab hold of their own fates, driving down crime and welfare rates, controlling local taxes and regulation, even improving public schooling in a few instances. In many cities, including Kansas City, Denver, Cincinnati, and Newark, new residents, businesses, and cultural institutions reclaimed public spaces, reviving downtowns across America. These victories combined with widespread prosperity to breed a new cast of contemporary villains; "sprawl" now heads the list of metropolitan area problems, just as sprawl's city cousin, "gentrification," has nudged aside crime and abandonment as the distinctly urban "plague" of our time.

Despite this urban revival, the middle class outmigration from the older manufacturing cities continues to exacerbate the polarization between urban and suburban areas, bringing a host of social and political problems. Population deconcentration has contributed to the urban sprawl that eats up farmland and creates competing corridors of power and influence that threaten the central cities. A number of articles deal with alternatives to deconcentration; they elaborate the core ideas of the "new urbanism," such as the virtues of density and the elements of urban design that encourage civic life.

Educational reform remains one of the keys to reversing the middle class outflow. Parents who have choices often choose to leave the city (or the public school system) when their children start school. The new educational reformers generally want to encourage people to remain in the cities by providing choice through charter schools or vouchers. The very recent Supreme Court decision favoring vouchers (July, 2002) handed a major victory to school choice proponents. Reinventing education re-

mains a staggering challenge, but early successes involving crime and welfare remind us that "difficult" need not mean "impossible."

During the 1980s and 1990s immigrants continued to pour into many of our cities, particularly Los Angeles, New York, Miami, and Chicago, filling jobs and neighborhoods that many others had fled. They have rebuilt down-and-out city neighborhoods building by building. Without the demographic renewal brought by immigration, entire sections of American cities would be abandoned by now, and the issues of population shrinkage would be even more pressing than they are. Immigrants' entrepreneurial skills have reshaped local economies, just as they have repopulated entire neighborhoods.

But immigrants bring problems as well as benefits to our cities and our country. Having documented the positive impact of immigrants on city economies and neighborhoods, researchers now turn their attention to the prospects of the "second generation." Where will the American-raised children of immigrants end up? How will their lives square with their home-grown aspirations? Another urgent problem concerns national security. If this is a war of civilizations, on which side will some of the immigrants and their children fight? How will the immigration service screen out the most dangerous applicants seeking to come to the United States. How will this effort change the policies and procedures of our immigration service? And how will it effect American attitudes toward cities?

Those of us who are involved in producing *Annual Editions: Urban Society* wish to make the next edition as useful and effective as possible. Your criticism and advice are welcomed. Please offer your opinion by filling out the article rating form on the last page of this book. Any anthology can be improved. This one will continue to be, and your comments are important in this process.



Fred Siegel
Editor



Jan Rosenberg
Editor

Topic Guide

This topic guide suggests how the selections in this book relate to the subjects covered in your course. You may want to use the topics listed on these pages to search the Web more easily.

On the following pages a number of Web sites have been gathered specifically for this book. They are arranged to reflect the units of this *Annual Edition*. You can link to these sites by going to the DUSHKIN ONLINE support site at <http://www.dushkin.com/online/>.

ALL THE ARTICLES THAT RELATE TO EACH TOPIC ARE LISTED BELOW THE BOLD-FACED TERM.

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World Wide Web Sites

The following World Wide Web sites have been carefully researched and selected to support the articles found in this reader. The easiest way to access these selected sites is to go to our DUSHKIN ONLINE support site at <http://www.dushkin.com/online/>.

AE: Urban Society, 11th edition

The following sites were available at the time of publication. Visit our Web site—we update DUSHKIN ONLINE regularly to reflect any changes.

General Sources

Library of Congress

<http://www.loc.gov>

Examine this extensive Web site to learn about the wonderful resource tools, library services/resources, exhibitions, and databases in many different subfields of urban studies.

National Geographic Society

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com>

This site provides links to National Geographic's huge archive of maps, articles, and other documents. There is a great deal of material of interest to students of urban society.

University of Pennsylvania Library

<http://www.library.upenn.edu/resources/websitest.html>

This vast site is rich in links to information about virtually every subject you can think of in urban studies. Its extensive population and demography resources address such concerns as migration, income, and health.

UNIT 1: The Urban Frame

Manchester, N.H., Open Urban Space Website

<http://www.mv.com/ipusers/env/>

At this site you can read about the "urban open space philosophy" and explore specific initiatives in various communities.

WNET/Tenement Museum

<http://www.wnet.org/archive/tenement/eagle.html>

The Tenement Museum in New York City's Lower East Side is a unique place. Visit this Public Broadcasting Service site to learn the history of a tenement building as housing during subsequent waves of immigration.

UNIT 2: Sprawl: Challenges to the Metropolitan Landscape

American Studies Web

<http://www.georgetown.edu/crossroads/asw/>

This eclectic site provides links to a wealth of Internet resources for research in American studies, from rural and urban development, to federalism, to race and ethnic relations.

Sprawl Guide

<http://www.plannersweb.com/sprawl/home.html>

This online Sprawl Guide is designed to explain the key issues associated with sprawl: housing density, urban sprawl, and growth management. See the Sprawl Resource Guide to link to the wealth of information that is available on the Web.

Yahoo/Social Science/Urban Studies

http://www.yahoo.com/Social_Science/Urban_Studies/

Yahoo's page provides many valuable links to resources on various topics in urban studies and development, such as urban planning and urban sprawl.

UNIT 3: Urban Economies

IISDnet

<http://iisd1.iisd.ca>

This site of the International Institute for Sustainable Development, a Canadian organization, presents links on business and sustainable development, developing ideas, and Hot Topics. Linkages is its multimedia resource for environment and development policymakers.

The International Center for Migration, Ethnicity, and Citizenship

<http://www.newschool.edu/icmec/>

The Center is engaged in scholarly research and public policy analysis bearing on international migration, refugees, and the incorporation of newcomers in host countries. Explore this site for current news and to learn of resources for research.

National Immigration Forum

<http://www.immigrationforum.org/index.htm>

This proimmigrant organization examines the effects of immigration on the U.S. economy and society. Examine the links for discussion of underground economies, immigrant economies, and other topics.

School of Labor and Industrial Relations

<http://www.lir.msu.edu>

This MSU/SLIR Hot Links page takes you to sites regarding industrial relations throughout the world. It has links from U.S. government and statistics, to newspapers and libraries, to international intergovernmental organizations.

U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

<http://www.eeoc.gov>

The EEOC's mission "is to ensure equality of opportunity by vigorously enforcing federal legislation prohibiting discrimination in employment." Consult this site for small business information, facts about employment discrimination, and enforcement and litigation.

UNIT 4: Urban Revival

Connect for Kids/Workplace

http://www.connectforkids.org/info-url1564/info-url_list.htm?section=Workplace

Browse here to learn about how employees, employees' families, society in general, and management can help a company and a community become more family-friendly. It provides useful hints and guidelines.

WWW Virtual Library: Demography & Population Studies

<http://demography.anu.edu.au/VirtualLibrary/>

This is a definitive guide to demography and population studies with important links to information about the urban environment and the quality of life worldwide.

UNIT 5: Urban Policies and Politics

Munisource.org

<http://www.munisource.org>

This invaluable site provides hundreds of links to government bodies and agencies at all levels and from countries all over the world.

Program in Urban Politics and Policy

<http://www.ssc.msu.edu/~urban/index.htm>

Funding opportunities now exist for students interested in master-level programs in urban planning. A joint degree with Michigan State University's Urban Affairs Programs is offered. Visit this site for more information.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

<http://www.hud.gov>

Explore this government site for information on public housing, community development, and other topics. Click on Communities for links to state and local government sites.

Virtual Seminar in Global Political Economy/Global Cities & Social Movements

<http://csf.colorado.edu/gpe/gpe95b/resources.html>

This site of Internet resources is rich in links to subjects of interest in urban studies, covering topics such as sustainable cities, megacities, and urban planning. Links to many international nongovernmental organizations are included.

UNIT 6: Urban Neighborhoods

Center for Democracy and Citizenship

<http://www.hhh.umn.edu/centers/cdc/>

This site from the Center for Democracy and Citizenship, associated with the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs, provides information on current projects and research aimed at strengthening citizenship and civic education. Click on the links to stories describing various such endeavors.

Civnet/CIVITAS

<http://www.civnet.org/index.htm>

CIVITAS is an international, nongovernmental organization dedicated to promoting civic education and civil society. Find news from around the world related to civic education and civil society, a journal, and Web links here. Resources include a number of great historical documents.

The Gallup Organization

<http://www.gallup.com>

Open this Gallup Organization home page for links to an extensive archive of public opinion poll results and reports on a variety of topics related to urban life.

UNIT 7: Urban Problems: Crime, Education, and Poverty

The Center for School Reform

<http://www.center.edu>

This is the home page of the Center for Innovation in Education, self-described as a "not-for-profit, non-partisan research organization" focusing on K-12 education reform strategies. Click

on its links for information about and varying perspectives on various reform initiatives such as the voucher system.

Justice Information Center

<http://www.ncjrs.org>

Provided by the National Criminal Justice Reference Service, this JIC site connects to information about corrections, courts, crime prevention, criminal justice, statistics, drugs and crime, law enforcement, and victims—among other topics—and presents news and current highlights.

National Institute on the Education of At-Risk Students

<http://www.ed.gov/offices/OERI/At-Risk/>

The At-Risk Institute supports a range of research and development activities designed to improve the education of students at risk of educational failure due to limited English proficiency, race, geographic location, or economic disadvantage. Access its work and links at this site.

The Urban Institute

<http://www.urban.org>

Visit this home page of the Urban Institute, an organization that investigates social and economic problems and analyzes efforts to solve these problems. Click on the links provided to access information on such topics as welfare reform and health care financing.

UNIT 8: Urban Futures: Cities After September 11, 2001

Department of State International Information Programs

<http://usinfo.state.gov>

A wide-ranging page, which is prepared by the Department of State, this site leads to discussions of topics of global concern such as urbanization. The site addresses today's Hot Topics as well as ongoing issues that form the foundation of the field. Many Web links are provided.

Metropolis Archives: Sustainability

http://www.metropolismag.com/html/content_1001/sup/index_b.html

At this site find many articles from the *Metropolis* journal's archives, which discuss issues of sustainability worldwide.

SocioSite: University of Amsterdam

<http://www.pscw.uva.nl/sociosite/TOPICS/>

This huge sociological site provides access to many discussions and references of interest to students of urban studies, such as links to information on inner cities and the effects of rapid urbanization.

United Nations

<http://www.unsystem.org>

Visit this Official Web Site Locator for the UN to learn about programs and plans related to urban development and urbanization around the world.

Urban Education Web

<http://eric-web.tc.columbia.edu>

Dedicated to urban students, their families, and the educators who serve them, this rich site is a clearing house on urban education.

We highly recommend that you review our Web site for expanded information and our other product lines. We are continually updating and adding links to our Web site in order to offer you the most usable and useful information that will support and expand the value of your Annual Editions. You can reach us at: <http://www.dushkin.com/annualeditions/>.

UNIT 1

The Urban Frame

Unit Selections

1. **Fear of the City, 1783 to 1983**, Alfred Kazin
2. **The Man Who Loved Cities**, Nathan Glazer
3. **The Death and Life of America's Cities**, Fred Siegel

Key Points to Consider

- Why have Americans traditionally feared big cities? Are these fears well founded?
- Why is it so hard to define just what a city is?
- How can we think about the city as an artifact? What are the best-designed public spaces in your city or town?
- Could we solve America's big city social problems if those cities were merged with their surrounding suburbs? Discuss your answer.
- How are Americans re-sorting themselves geographically? What effect will this process have in exacerbating or easing social tension?



Links: www.dushkin.com/online/

These sites are annotated in the World Wide Web pages.

Manchester, N.H., Open Urban Space Website

<http://www.mv.com/ipusers/env/>

WNET/Tenement Museum

<http://www.wnet.org/archive/tenement/eagle.html>

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UNIT 1 The Urban Frame

Three articles review some of the dynamics of urban living that need to be stressed if cities are to regain their appeal.

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1. **Fear of the City, 1783 to 1983**, Alfred Kazin, *American Heritage*, February/March 1983

Alfred Kazin examines the age-old threats of the **city** from a personal and historical perspective. He argues that despite its excesses and aggressiveness, the city possesses an indescribable allure and magic.

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2. **The Man Who Loved Cities**, Nathan Glazer, *The Wilson Quarterly*, Spring 1999

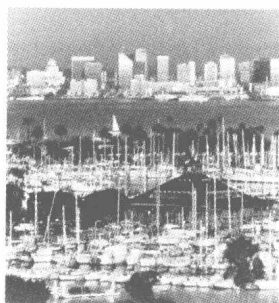
William H. Whyte, best known as author of *The Organization Man*, was a brilliant analyst of how American cities and suburbs shape our lives. Like Jane Jacobs, another well-known city observer, he appreciated and developed original ways to **document** the uniquely urban virtue of **density**.

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3. **The Death and Life of America's Cities**, Fred Siegel, *The Public Interest*, Summer 2002

A generation of **reformist urban mayors** in the 1990s broke with the policies and perspectives of the last 30 years. Local initiatives helped control crime, improve the quality of life, reduce taxes, and, in some cases, even improve public school systems.

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UNIT 2 Sprawl: Challenges to the Metropolitan Landscape

Four selections explore some of the factors that define the urban scene.

Unit Overview

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4. **What Will it Take to Halt Sprawl?**, Molly O'Meara Sheehan, *World Watch*, January/February 2002

With nearly half of the world's population living in and around urban areas (compared to 10 percent in 1900), more people than ever are frustrated by traffic congestion and support **anti-sprawl initiatives**. The Washington, D.C., metro rail system helped to counter sprawl and focus development (including infrastructure) on mass transit; Santiago, Chile's congestion gave birth to an antihighway coalition called "Living City."

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5. **Are Europe's Cities Better?**, Pietro S. Nivola, *The Public Interest*, Fall 1999

This comprehensive overview of **differences between cities in Europe and the United States** highlights a wide range of issues—transportation policy, energy costs, crime, taxation, housing policy, and schools—and contrasts the spread of sprawl outside U.S. cities with **Europe's persistent urban density**.

31

6. **Is Regional Government the Answer?**, Fred Siegel, *The Public Interest*, Fall 1999
Fred Siegel *criticizes the “new regionalists”* who link urban flight with blight, arguing instead that what metro areas need are better policies, not fewer governments. He redefines *sprawl* as *“part and parcel of healthy growth”* and warns against easy solutions.

36

7. **Sprawl-Weary Los Angeles Builds Up and In**, Timothy Egan, *New York Times*, March 10, 2002
Even Los Angeles, the quintessential *metropolitan sprawl*, is taking a new approach to get past its characteristic traffic jams and endless highways. Los Angeles built its first subway system in the 1990s, and nearly 4,000 lofts are being developed in downtown office buildings, many of which are being converted to mixed use.

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UNIT 3

Urban Economies

Four selections discuss some of the forces that drive the economies of urban centers.

Unit Overview

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8. **The Rise of the Creative Class**, Richard Florida, *The Washington Monthly*, May 2002
Creative “knowledge workers” seek out cities (such as Seattle, Washington, Boston, Massachusetts, and Austin, Texas) that support their *lifestyle interests*: outdoor recreational amenities, historic buildings, vibrant music and cultural scenes, and tolerance of diversity that incorporates gay people and new immigrants.

46

9. **A Bit of a Chill for Hot Times in the Big City**, Joel Kotkin, *Washington Post*, March 24, 2002
Challenging the celebration of *urban revitalization*, Joel Kotkin cites census data to show that dispersion continues to pull people from the cities to the suburbs and beyond. Even immigrants and young singles move increasingly to suburban areas when they can. And that’s where the high-tech industry, the cutting edge of America’s economy, is located.

55

10. **The Company They Keep**, Emily Barker, *Inc.*, May 2000
Managers of urban companies discuss the distinctive challenges in and approaches to *hiring and retaining employees*. One company provides *emergency loans* to employees who come up short, while another offers regular opportunities for employees to *discuss company policy* and procedures with the boss.

58

11. **Feisty Mom-and-Pops of Gotham Strike Back at Drugstore Chains**, Laura Johannes, *Wall Street Journal*, March 20, 2000
Recently “discovered” urban markets lure *giant national drugstore chains*; they threaten to close down small owner-run stores as they attempt to corner (capture the largest market share in) the previously *underserved city neighborhoods*. This article shows how one “David” fought back successfully against the Rite Aid “Goliath.”

61



UNIT 4

Urban Revival

Eleven articles look at how cities are being resurrected and rejuvenated.

Unit Overview

64

Part A. Financing and Costs

12. **Financing Urban Revitalization**, Beth Mattson-Teig, *Urban Land*, March 2002

The national economic downturn has made it more difficult to assemble the varying, complex levels of public and private financing that redevelopment projects demand. Current examples from Cleveland, Dallas, and Washington, D.C., prove that **urban economic development** is still possible for determined municipalities and developers.

66

13. **Ground Zero in Urban Decline**, Sam Staley, *Reason*, November 2001

Cincinnati's long decline in population, jobs, and future prospects has led to numerous, mostly **misguided, economic development schemes** over the years. The riots in 2001 sparked interest in revitalizing the city by building a convention center, despite the fact that the number of conventions is dropping and cannot be shown to benefit the neighborhood. Sam Staley reminds us that cities should stick to their basic functions, such as infrastructure, allowing the market to do its work.

70

14. **Return to Center**, Christopher D. Ringwald, *Governing*, April 2002

Christopher Ringwald describes how some states are moving their offices back downtown from the suburbs as part of a deliberate effort to generate an **urban revival**. Long-suffering downtowns welcome the returning jobs.

77

Part B. Downtown Renaissance: Culture, Tourism, and Education

15. **New Village on Campus**, John Handley, *Chicago Tribune*, April 28, 2002

The University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) is building a mixed-use, 68-acre development intended to transform this commuter school into a 24-hour campus neighborhood. **University Village** will be mostly new construction with student housing, bookstores, coffee houses, and university playing fields.

80

16. **Museum Growth Pays Off for Galleries**, Laura Meyers, *Art Business News*, March 2001

When **art museums** build new structures and satellite venues, they typically contribute not only to **urban revitalization** but, through the often-overlooked sector of local art-related businesses, to more widely recognized "hospitality" arenas such as cafes and restaurants.

84

17. **Culture Club**, Mike Sheridan, *Urban Land*, April 2002

Kansas City is in the midst of a major, billion-dollar cultural development that includes several art museums, libraries, and theaters. The city sees **a strong cultural scene** as essential to attracting and retaining businesses seeking to recruit a talented workforce to the area.

88

18. **Midwestern Momentum**, Beth Mattson-Teig, *Urban Land*, April 2002

Midwestern cities, from Chicago to St. Louis to Detroit, are using economic development strategies to create vibrant, 24-hour downtowns. The goal is to revitalize downtowns by **balancing business and entertainment components with a strong residential base**.

92

19. **A Skid Row Turned SoHo in Downtown New Orleans**, Ralph Blumenthal, *New York Times*, September 4, 2000
Arts are leading the **revival of an industrial district** in New Orleans, as they have done in cities such as Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and Newark. Paradoxically, New Orleans' revival sprouted from an earlier, failed effort—the 1984 Louisiana World Exposition. Local residents, galleries, shops, and restaurants now inhabit spaces that were vacant until recently.

96

Part C. Immigration

20. **Saving Buffalo From Extinction**, David Blake, *City Limits*, February 2002
Buffalo lost about 10 percent of its population in the 1990s, but attracts many temporary refugees traveling from Canada (with its more open asylum laws). Some local leaders, aware of the substantial contributions that immigrants have made to other cities they have lived in, pin their hopes on the refugees to lead a much-needed economic as well as **demographic revival**.

99

21. **Chinatown Returns to Center Stage**, Kerrie Kennedy, *Chicago Tribune*, January 20, 2002
Chicago's Chinatown is being revitalized; upscale housing is being bought as fast as it is built. Chinese and Chinese-American professionals, business people, and retirees who have made it financially and socially now choose to live in Chinatown, where almost everything is in walking distance and it is easy to meet friends.

103

22. **Movers & Shakers**, Joel Kotkin, *Reason*, December 2000
Immigrants in Los Angeles are breathing new life into city neighborhoods that had been moribund. **Immigrant residents and entrepreneurs** have rescued dilapidated neighborhoods in every city to which they have migrated.

106



UNIT 5 Urban Policies and Politics

Four selections review how policies and politics have affected urban centers.

Unit Overview

112

23. **Mayors and Morality: Daley and Lindsay Then and Now**, Fred Siegel, *Partisan Review*, Spring 2001
Fred Siegel teases out the ironies in the reversal of reputations of Mayors Richard J. Daley (the father) and John Lindsay, highlighting their very different approaches to **the role of race in city life and politics**. The contrasts are embedded in the shifting fortunes of cities and urban policies during the second half of the twentieth century.

114

24. **Complicating the Race**, Jonathan D. Tepperman, *New York Times Magazine*, April 28, 2002
Newark's 2002 mayoral election pitted "postpartisan" Cory Booker (a graduate of Stanford, Yale, and Oxford), who is racially black but politically cosmopolitan and universalist, against long-time mayor and old-style, black-identity politician Sharpe James. In a bitterly contested race, James managed to barely hold onto his job as the highest-paid local official in the United States, but the campaign suggests a different future for **local politics**.

119

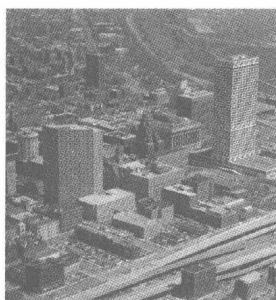
25. **Beyond Safe and Clean**, Bridget Maley, Cathleen Malmstrom, and Kellie Phipps, *Urban Land*, February 2002
Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) began as mechanisms to promote safety and cleanliness in urban areas. Now that they have achieved their initial goals, some BIDs help guide the work of historic preservation, a common element in urban revitalization efforts in their areas.

123

26. **Sticking With the Seattle Way**, Harry Siegel, *The Weekly Standard*, December 3, 2001

Seattle, *the urban capital of the Internet economy*, has fallen on hard times. But in a 2001 mayoral election, voters stuck to "the Seattle way of governing" (business as usual), reenforcing political passivity with an initiative process used repeatedly to restrict government's power. Harry Siegel predicts that Seattle's debt will grow and its economy shrink if Mayor Greg Nickels governs as he has promised.

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UNIT 6

Urban Neighborhoods

Five selections look at the revival of urban neighborhoods.

Unit Overview

130

27. **The Gentry, Misjudged as Neighbors**, John Tierney, *New York Times*, March 26, 2002

John Tierney reports "good news" from two recent studies, one set in Boston and one in New York. *Neighborhood improvements* in safety and services ushered in by gentrification mean a better neighborhood for the existing, low-income tenants as well as for the higher-income residents who have moved in recently. Another surprise: existing residents are less likely to move out of a neighborhood that is gentrifying than were similar residents in other neighborhoods.

132

28. **The Essence of Uptown**, A. T. Palmer, *Chicago Tribune*, December 16, 2001

Chicago's Uptown neighborhood moved quickly from looking like a "dive" whose name realtors carefully avoided to one of the city's latest hot neighborhoods. Long-time residents worry about their fate as housing prices continue their steep upward march. Community leaders have developed some strategies to maintain balance in the *mix of social classes and races* in Uptown.

134

29. **On Avenue C, Renewal and Regret**, John Leland, *New York Times*, August 3, 2000

New York's Lower East Side, home to immigrants and poor people for more than 100 years, is being *gentrified*. The diverse mix of residents characterizes the Lower East Side, but the area's newest residents threaten to tip the balance toward young, well-educated students, professionals, and business people. Most of the new entrepreneurs also live in the area.

137

30. **The Geography of Cool**, *The Economist*, April 15, 2000

What makes an urban neighborhood "*cool*"? This global look at new "cool" districts in London, New York, Berlin, Paris, and Tokyo concludes that a trendy neighborhood has to have plenty of *cheap housing, young trend-setters* (students, artists, musicians, fashion designers), *diversity* (immigrants and/or ethnic and/or racial diversity), and finally, some, but not too much, *crime and drugs* to give a sense of "edginess."

141

31. **Rocking-Chair Revival**, Leslie Mann, *Chicago Tribune*, June 8, 2002

A leading new *urbanist idea*, the front porch, reasserts itself in a growing number of new homes, as homebuyers at varying income levels emerge from the backyards they treasured in the 70s, 80s, and 90s to socialize with their neighbors on their street.

143



UNIT 7

Urban Problems: Crime, Education, and Poverty

Seven articles examine the inherent problems of urban growth.

Unit Overview

146

32. **Broken Windows**, James Q. Wilson and George L. Kelling, *The Atlantic Monthly*, March 1982

This is the seminal article on policing that created the conceptual underpinnings for New York's dramatic decline in crime. The authors challenged the 911 **theory of policing** that emphasized a rapid response to crime in favor of order maintenance.

148

33. **How an Idea Drew People Back to Urban Life**, James Q. Wilson, *The New York Sun*, April 16, 2002

Twenty years after James Q. Wilson and George Kelling published *Broken Windows*, Wilson explains the origins of the idea and the **connections between public order, crime, and arrests**. "Broken Windows" refers to the breakdown of public order.

155

34. **Murder Mystery**, John Buntin, *Governing*, June 2002

This article contrasts the distinct **approaches to crime and policing** of Boston and New York. Both cities drove violent crime way down in the 1990s, but Boston's began creeping back up again in the year 2000. Boston's approach emphasizes partnerships between police and parole officers, community leaders, streetworkers, ministers, and academics, while the New York model emphasizes "broken windows" policing and COMPSTAT, a crime-mapping approach linked to precinct commander accountability.

157

35. **Crossing the Line**, Sasha Abramsky, *City Limits*, January 2002

Surprisingly steep drops in crime in Brooklyn's Fort Greene neighborhood propelled rapid gentrification over the last 8 years. Sasha Abramsky looks at how "broken windows" policing of quality-of-life crimes, coupled with COMPSTAT, drives **crime rates down** and affects public housing residents, parolees and probationers, brownstoners, and local merchants.

161

36. **Segregation in New York Under a Different Name**, J. P. Avlon, *The New York Sun*, June 13, 2002

Bilingual education (unlike English as a Second Language, or ESL) is a trap from which most children cannot escape. California has abolished **bilingual education**, and has not suffered the disastrous consequences that opponents had warned against.

167

37. **Geography of Welfare Is Changing**, Amy Goldstein, *Washington Post*, July 18, 2000

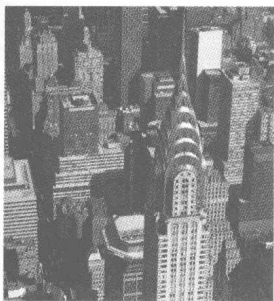
Studies of **welfare reform** reveal that cities have a hard time moving people off welfare; the hundred largest cities have an increasing percentage of the country's welfare families. Many point to the fact that jobs grow faster in suburban areas, while other experts highlight the amount of substance abuse, mental illness, and illiteracy in urban welfare recipients.

169

38. **Where Is Everyone Going?**, Alex Kotlowitz, *Chicago Tribune Magazine*, March 10, 2002

The goal of the Chicago Housing Authority plan is to knock down all existing public housing, then build a mix of low-end and market-rate housing, in an effort to **integrate the poor into the economic and social life** of the city. Alex Kotlowitz reviews some of the ironic responses and objections to the plan.

171



UNIT 8

Urban Futures: Cities After September 11, 2001

Five articles examine the meaning of memorials, views of New York after the terrorist attack, and the implications of a rapidly rising urban population.

Unit Overview

176

39. Remember Life With Life: The New World Trade Center as Living Memorial, James Young, *Properties*, April 2002

This poetic meditation on *the meaning of memorials* in a postmodernist era contributes significantly to our efforts to comprehend, remember, and move beyond the 2001 attacks on American society and culture by building a "New World Trade Center" dedicated to all that "the terrorists abhor: our modernity, our tolerance, our diversity, our egalitarianism," and our prosperity.

178

40. A View From the South, John Shelton Reed, *The American Enterprise*, June 2002

The attacks on the World Trade Center highlighted *a different view of "the city,"* as John Reed tellingly refers to New York, in this post-September 11 southern twist on Alfred Kazin's earlier consideration of New York's role in American culture in the first article of unit 1. After September 11, 2001, tough, working-class, outer-borough New Yorkers—cops and firemen—displaced upscale wiseguys in the American imagination.

182

41. Rebuilding: The Idea of the City: The Present Crisis in Perspective, Fred Siegel, *Properties*, April 2002

Keynoting a major post-September 11 conference in New York, Fred Siegel provides a wide-angle perspective on *long-term urban dispersion* and on how the history and economy of lower Manhattan, from its harbor to its financial services economy, have always been intimately linked to its environs—Brooklyn, Jersey City, New Jersey, and Fairfield, Connecticut.

186

42. Time to Think Small? Joel Kotkin, *The American Enterprise*, June 2002

Joel Kotkin describes how the new, high-tech economy is more dispersed than the industrial wheel-and-spoke economy, allowing firms and employees to situate themselves in remote locales that fit their *lifestyle choices*. He warns New York to become less arrogant, to get over being "the capital of the world."

193

43. Cities in the Next Century, Leonard I. Ruchelman, *Society*, November/December 2000

Economic restructuring has produced *different kinds of cities*, ranging from "headquarters cities" like New York, to "innovation centers" like Route 128 near Boston and Silicon Valley, in California, to "border cities" (Miami and San Antonio), "leisure-tourist cities," and "retirement centers."

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